

1400, 20 August 1965

VULNERABILITY ESTIMATE FOR MISSION C445C

CONCLUSION:

There are no known surface-to-air missile defenses on this route capable of interfering with Mission C445C. Latest Air Order of Battle shows six MIG-21's at Nanning South, and one at Suichi.

GENERAL:

The MIG-15, 17, and 19 do not present a threat to the U-2 at 70,000 feet. Of these three fighter types, none can cruise supersonic. The MIG-19 can exceed Mach 1, perform a dynamic climb to approximately 62,000 feet and cruise subsonic, steady state at 59,000 feet plus or minus 1000 feet. The MIG-19 does not have sufficient power to perform an effective ZOOM maneuver.

The MIG-21 has the capability of intercepting the U-2 at 70,000 feet by performing a ZOOM maneuver and launching an AA-2 Sidewinder type IR missile.

AIR ORDER OF BATTLE FOR FORMOSA STRAIT:

There are eight airfields in this area pertinent to Mission C445C. They are Ningming, Nanning South, Leiyang, Canton/Nanhai, Mei-Hsien, Lungchi, Chinchiang, and Suichi. MIG-21's are located at Nanning, and Suichi; MIG-19's at Ningming, Nanning, Leiyang and Canton.

A request for a SAM search thirty nautical miles either side of planned track has been levied on NPIC. The results were negative and copies of the request and results may be found elsewhere in this report.